6 Easy Homemade Breads For A Healthy Life

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Bread is a staple in most diets and can be a real lifesaver, literally, when it comes to surviving. Unfortunately modern store-bought bread has very little nutrition. However, you can make many different kinds of bread at home that are nutritious and good for you even if you have such conditions as diabetes, gluten intolerance, allergies or other issues that may otherwise be affected by bread consumption.

If you have diabetes, you obviously need to watch your carbohydrate consumption in order to keep your blood sugar under control. Fortunately, there are many bread recipes that use nut flours or whole grains that contain the fiber you need to counteract the carbohydrates. These recipes will help you enjoy bread without spiking your blood sugar.

If you have a gluten intolerance or celiac disease, you can't have wheat, rye, barley or triticale because of the protein, gluten, found in the bread.

Up til recently, the only gluten-free bread options were either gross or prohibitively expensive. Most of these recipes are gluten-free and guaranteed to taste better than store-bought bread.

Nut allergies are also a concern for many people. Unlike some other allergies, a nut allergy is often extremely dangerous; people die from exposure. We included nut-free recipes in here, too!

1. Basic White Bread

This recipe is good for diabetics and is nut-free.

- 4 t bread machine yeast
- 1/2 t sugar
- 1 1/4 cups water (90-100 F)
- 3 T olive oil
- 3/4 t baking powder
- 1 t salt
- 1 T sugar substitute
- 1 cup vital wheat gluten flour
- 1/4 cup oat flour
- 3/4 cup almond flour
- 1/4 cup flax seed
- 1/4 cup wheat bran

Directions:

- 1. Put the water, oil and sugar in your bread maker.
- 2. In a separate bowl, mix all the dry ingredients with the exception of the yeast and baking powder.
- 3. Mix well.
- 4. Take out approximately 1/4 cup.
- 5. Pour the rest of dry ingredients into the pan.

- 6. Mix the reserved 1/4 cup of dry ingredients with the yeast and baking powder.
- 7. Pour into the bread machine pan.
- 8. Use the three hour bake cycle.
- 9. After 55 minutes, gently lift the dough out and remove the paddle and place the dough back into the machine so that you don't have a huge hole in your finished loaf.

2. Low Glycemic Index Banana Bread

This recipe is courtesy of the Weight Watcher website and is good for diabetics and people with nut allergies.

- 3 very ripe bananas
- 1 cup sugar substitute
- 1/2 cup natural applesauce
- 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup whole wheat flour
- 1/2 t salt
- 1 1/2 t baking soda

Directions:

- 1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- 2. In a mixer, mash bananas, add sugar substitute and mix.
- 3. Mix in rest of ingredients.
- 4. Pour ingredients into a greased bread pan.
- 5. Bake for 50 to 60 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean.
- 6. Remove from pan and cool on a wire rack.

*If using a dark coated pan, bake at 325 degrees and bake a little longer.

Video first seen on <u>Heartland Country Stor</u>

3. Light Fluffy Cheddar Bacon Biscuits

These biscuits are easy to make and are diabetic-friendly, gluten-free and nut-free. Oh yeah, and delicious!

- 1/4 cup butter, melted and slightly cooled.
- 1/3 cup sifted coconut flour
- 4 eggs
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/4 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 cup sharp cheddar cheese, shredded
- 1/2 cup diced bacon, optional

Directions:



- 1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees.
- 2. Grease a cookie sheet.
- 3. Mix eggs, butter, salt, and garlic powder.
- 4. Add flour and baking powder and mix until there are no lumps.
- 5. Fold in cheese and bacon.
- 6. Drop batter by the heaping tablespoon onto greased cookie sheet.
- 7. Bake for 15 minutes, or until lightly browned.
- 8. Let cool for 5-10 minutes before removing and serving. Cool completely before storing.

4. Cinnamon Flax Muffin

This recipe is a bit unique and well-suited to survival because it's only for a single muffin. You can make it in the microwave or in the oven, or even in a cup over a fire if you use a lid.

It's diabetic-friendly, gluten-free and nut-free.

- 1 large egg
- 1 T honey
- 1 1/2 t cinnamon
- 2 t plain fat-free yogurt
- 1/2 t baking powder
- 3 T ground flax seeds

Directions:

- 1. Spray a microwave safe coffee cup or bowl with cooking spray.
- 2. Mix the egg and honey until well combined, add the yogurt and blend well.
- 3. Mix in the ground flaxseed, cinnamon and baking powder until well combined.
- 4. Pour in coffee cup so that it's no more than half full and microwave on high for 1 1/2 minutes.
- 5. Serve hot.

5. Rosemary Herb French Bread

This recipe is good for diabetics and is gluten-free, nut-free, soy-free and dairy-free.

- 3/4 cup sorghum flour
- 1/4 cup millet flour
- 1/2 cup tapioca flour
- 1/2 T xanthan gum
- 3/4 t salt
- 1 t egg replacer, dry. Skip this if you're using real eggs.
- 1 T sugar
- 3/4 cup lukewarm water
- 1 T rapid-rise yeast
- 1 T olive oil
- 2 t egg replacer whisked with 6 tbsp. warm water or 3 eggs, if eggs aren't an issue
- 1/2 t vinegar
- 1 T olive oil
- 1/2 T crushed rosemary



• 1/2 T kosher salt

Directions:

- 1. Preheat oven to 375F.
- 2. Grease sides of French bread pan or regular loaf pan and sprinkle with cornmeal.
- 3. Combine dry ingredients in a medium mixing bowl of a standing mixer and combine.
- 4. Put sugar and lukewarm water in a small bowl and add yeast and allow it to activate.
- 5. Add the yeast water to the medium mixing bowl.
- 6. Add first amount of olive oil, egg replacer "Eggs" or regular eggs and vinegar and mix on medium for 3 minutes.
- 7. Carefully scoop out your dough and make a bread-shaped loaf. Baste with remaining oil or melted butter and make a few decorative slices in the top if you want. Sprinkle with rosemary and salt.
- 8. Let rise for 20-30 minutes or until about doubled in size.
- 9. Bake for 25-30 minutes or until bread is browned and sounds slightly hollow when you tap it.
- 10. Allow to cool for several minutes then remove from pan.

Video first seen on <u>Heartland Country Stor</u>

6. Wonderful Wheat-Free Wheat Bread

This bread has a pleasant, nutty flavor and works well as a sandwich bread. It's also great with just butter. It's diabetic friendly, gluten-free, dairy-free and nut-free.

- 2 cups almond flour
- 2 T coconut flour
- 1/4 cup flax meal
- 1/4 t sea salt
- 1/2 t baking soda
- 5 eggs
- 1 T coconut oil
- 1 T honey
- 1 T apple cider vinegar

Directions:

- 1. Place almond flour, coconut flour, flax, salt and baking soda in a food processor and pulse to combine.
- 2. Pulse in eggs, oil, honey and vinegar until well-combined.
- 3. Transfer batter to a greased 7 1/2" x 3 1/2" loaf pan. Don't worry if the texture is looser than "regular" dough. That's the way that it's supposed to be.
- 4. Bake at 350° for 30 minutes.
- 5. Allow to cool in the pan for 2 hours.
- 6. Serve and enjoy!

We hope that these breads make you happy as well as healthy!

If you try them, please tell us about your experience in the comments section below. Likewise, if you



have a recipe that you'd like to share, please do so!

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